

**CARNEYS POINT TOWNSHIP**  
**BUDGET MEETING MINUTES**  
**MARCH 16, 2012**  
**8:30 AM**

The Special Budget Meeting of the Township Committee was held on the above date at the time of 8:30 a.m. Committeemen Newton, Racite, Dennis, Brown and Pelura were present. Also present at this meeting were M. Stout- CMFO / Administrator, J. Proffitt-Township Clerk.

Mayor Pelura called the meeting to order, he read the **Opening Public Meeting Act**. Mayor Pelura led the **Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag** and roll call was taken.

Mayor Pelura mentioned at a previous meeting the Committee discussed the open space tax. He said in 2007 by referendum the residents voted to allow for a tax to be collected for open space. This tax can be up to 2 cent, but the Committee chose to only collect 1 cent. Since then three farms have been preserved in Carneys Point Township through this funding. The Township has paid soft costs associated with the preservation. The balance of the account is just below \$270 thousand dollars. Mayor Pelura said there are no applications at this time and the last application used around 30 thousand dollars. He commented there is enough in the account to help again if needed. Mr. Dennis commented there needs to be 90 to 96 acres to go into farmland preservation and he is not sure if there are any farms that would fit that acreage. Mr. Brown said this can also be raised if something does come available. Mayor Pelura said yes up to a maximum of 2 cents.

**RESOLUTION 2012-56**  
**ESTABLISHING THE OPEN SPACE TAX FOR 2012**

Motion was made by Dr. Racite seconded by Mr. Dennis to approve lowering the Open Space Tax fee collected for 2012. Dr. Racite said the amount had been discussed and he would like to make the suggestion to lower it even more so \$10,000 is collected for the Open Space Tax fund. He said this will give that fund around \$300,000 dollars. This proposal was discussed and the corrections will be done to the resolution. A unanimous vote was taken.

Mayor Pelura asked if anyone had any questions with the finalization of the budget. Dr. Racite mentioned lowering the cost spent on natural gas. He said the electric had been lowered and feels the same thing should be done with the natural gas. Mr. Brown asked where gas is used. Mayor Pelura mentioned the Recreation Complex, Fire House and some at the Township Complex use gas. Mrs. Stout said the Township spent approximately \$17,250 in natural gas last year. Mrs. Stout said she would look into this.

Dr. Racite moved on to address a conversation with Brian Ruis n saving money on IT services. He said Mr. Ruis suggested going to the "Cloud" and how this could save the Township money. Mrs. Stout said she will give Mr. Ruis a call. Dr. Racite said he is willing to attend a meeting to present the findings to the Committee.

Next, Dr. Racite mentioned money in Capital for a fire vehicle and ambulance. He suggested putting \$10,000 in for a fire vehicle and \$5,000 for an ambulance. He mentioned how the Ambulance personnel looked for a refurbished ambulance before and saved the Township a lot of money. After some discussion a motion was made by Dr. Racite to place money in capital for both a fire vehicle and for an ambulance. Motion was seconded by Mr. Dennis and all were in favor.

Mayor Pelura spoke of the Recreation Complex being in need of some repairs. He said since the last Township meeting the Recreation Commission met and had some concerns with few of the

items at the Complex such as the fencing. He said a lot of the items in need of repair have been at the complex since it was opened twelve years ago. Mayor Pelura said an ordinance will have to be done to take money from the trust. He said \$30,000 dollars should be enough to cover the costs of the repairs. Dr. Racite made a motion to have an ordinance drafted for the removal of \$30,000 from the Recreation Trust for repairs, seconded by Mr. Dennis and all were in favor.

Under Old Business: Mr. Dennis mentioned interviews being set for the Deputy Court Administrator. Mrs. Stout said Carole Cummings, Municipal Division Manager was unable to attend on March 21<sup>st</sup>, so the new date for interviews will be March 29<sup>th</sup>.

Mayor Pelura moved on to the **Public Participation:** *Rich Gatanis of Pinewood Ave.* asked have there been any meetings with the County on Dispatching. Mayor Pelura said he, Dr. Racite and Chief DiGregorio met with Jeff Pomper on police dispatching. Mayor Pelura said the County had yet to complete their budget and Mr. Pomper was unable to give out costs for this service. He said they are still in the gathering information phase. Mr. Gatanis asked if this will be done this year. Mayor Pelura said it has not been put in this budget. Salaries and department expenses have been placed in the 2012 budget as if they will be here all year. Mayor Pelura said any shared service or contract for "anything", if able to be done in this calendar year then we would anticipate the saving this year. Mr. Gatanis asked about Police contract negotiations. He asked has any money had been put in the budget for increases. Mayor Pelura said yes money has been put in the budget and that they are waiting on dates so they can start negotiations. With no more questions or comments, this portion was closed.

#### **RESOLUTION 2012-57 EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Dr. Racite motioned to convene into Executive Session, seconded by Mr. Dennis and all was in favor. The regular meeting ended at 9:04 am.

A motion was made by Mr. Dennis to reconvene in regular session, seconded by Dr. Racite and all was in favor. The regular meeting reconvened at 9:13 am, with the following action being taken.

Dr. Racite made a motion to have a letter sent to the YMCA by April 1<sup>st</sup> requesting discussion on the contract with the Township and possible increase in rent, seconded by Mr. Dennis. All were in favor.

With no further business, a motion was made by Mr. Dennis to adjourn, seconded by Dr. Racite. Motion passed with five affirmative votes. Meeting adjourned at 9:14 a.m.

3-21-2012  
Approved:

  
June Proffitt, Municipal Clerk